

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masato Yoshida, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: February 7, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: A TRANSACTION MEDIATION SYSTEM
AND A PRINTING MEDIATION SYSTEM
WITH USE OF THE FORMER SYSTEM
AND A METHOD FOR ESTABLISHING
TRANSACTION MEDIATION NETWORK

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S.
patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 4, line 2, please change "claim 1 to 3" to -- claim 1--.

Please add the following new claims:

--8. Printing mediation system according to the transaction mediation system of
claim 1 in which the object product for transaction is a printed matter, wherein:

said orderer has image for processing information storage means for storing the image information used for the process and process condition storage means for storing the information about the process condition specifying the processing steps that should be implemented against said image information during the producing process of the printed matter;

said mediator had image for printing producing means for producing image for printing information by processing the specified steps against the image for processing information;

said supplier has a printing means for producing the printed matter based on said image for printing information; and

said printing mediation system further comprising:

process information transmission means for transmitting the image for printing information stored in said image for processing information storage means and the information about the process condition stored in said process condition storage means to said image for printing producing means; and

image information for printing transmission means for transmitting said image for printing information from said image information for printing producing means to said printing means.

9. Printing mediation system according to the transaction mediation system of

claim 2 in which the object product for transaction is a printed matter, wherein:

said orderer has image for processing information storage means for storing the image information used for the process and process condition storage means for storing the information about the process condition specifying the processing steps that should be implemented against said image information during the producing process of the printed matter;

said mediator had image for printing producing means for producing image for printing information by processing the specified steps against the image for processing information;

said supplier has a printing means for producing the printed matter based on said image for printing information; and

said printing mediation system further comprising:

process information transmission means for transmitting the image for printing information stored in said image for processing information storage means and the information about the process condition stored in said process condition storage means to said image for printing producing means; and

image information for printing transmission means for transmitting said image for printing information from said image information for printing producing means to said printing means.

10. Printing mediation system of claim 8, wherein:

said mediator has a design information database including at least either one of the image information used for producing the image for printing and the information about processing steps; and

said image for printing producing means calls either one of the image information corresponding to the information about said process condition and the information about the process steps from said design information database and produces the image for printing.

11. Printing mediation system of claim 9, wherein:

said mediator has a design information database including at least either one of the image information used for producing the image for printing and the information about processing steps; and

said image for printing producing means calls either one of the image information corresponding to the information about said process condition and the information about the process steps from said design information database and produces the image for printing.

12. Printing mediation system of claim 10, wherein:

said orderer has image information for identification producing means for producing the image information for identification indicating the condition of the printed

matter in case that the processing steps are implented according to the process condition specified for said image for processing information, and design for identification information storage means for storing at least a part of at least either one of the image information and the information about the processing steps stored in said design information database, whereby said image information for identification producing means calls at least either one of the image information corresponding to the information about the process condition stored in the process condition storage means and the information about processing steps from said design information for identification storage means and produces the image for identification, said image information for identification producing means calling at least either one of the image information corresponding to the information about the processing condition stored in said processing condition storage means and the information about the process steps from said design for identification information storage means to produce image for identification; and

said transaction mediation system further comprises design information transmitting means for transmitting at least a part of the image information or the information about producing steps stored in said design information database to said design information for identification storage means.

13. Printing mediation system of claim 11, wherein:

said orderer has image information for identification producing means for producing the image information for identification indicating the condition of the printed matter in case that the processing steps are implented according to the process condition

specified for said image for processing information, and design for identification information storage means for storing at least a part of at least either one of the image information and the information about the processing steps stored in said design information database, whereby said image information for identification producing means calls at least either one of the image information corresponding to the information about the process condition stored in the process condition storage means and the information about processing steps from said design information for identification storage means and produces the image for identification, said image information for identification producing means calling at least either one of the image information corresponding to the information about the processing condition stored in said processing condition storage means and the information about the process steps from said design for identification information storage means to produce image for identification; and

said transaction mediation system further comprises design information transmitting means for transmitting at least a part of the image information or the information about producing steps stored in said design information database to said design information for identification storage means.--

REMARKS

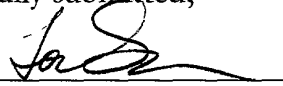
Claim 4 has been amended to delete the presence of an improper multiple dependent claim, and new claims 8-13 have been added.

Favorable action solicited on this application is respectfully requested.

Dated: February 7, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By



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